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*Reply Under 37 CFR 1.116*  
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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 49493.0032

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Leushner et al.

Application No.: 09/802,110

Filed: March 7, 2001

For: METHOD, COMPOSITIONS AND KIT FOR  
DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF  
MICROORGANISMS

Examiner: Cynthia B. Wilder

Art Unit: 1637

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This amendment and response is in reply to the final office action, mailed November 30, 2005. The five-month deadline for response to this office action (requiring a two-month extension of time) expires April 30, 2006. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the grounds of rejection and allowance of the claims in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

A Claim Listing begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

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